

Evening Ledger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY... Published daily at Public Ledger Building, Independence Square, Philadelphia.

England with his play he called the invaders subjects of the Empress of the North. Right now an American play is setting as good an example by giving the invaders names with no racial characteristics and inventing uniforms for them which have no possible resemblance to any so far devised.

Wanted: A Woman With Something to Give

THE Board of Education, it has been suggested, should consider a woman as successor to Doctor Jacobs—not any particular teacher, just a woman in general, if there can be such a thing.

Charlotte Ruydard has summed up the Philadelphia situation in some remarks on a very different project: "The woman suffrage party has asked for a woman on the Naval Board of Invention and Development, but that to me is entirely the wrong attitude to take."

A woman out in Chicago, Ella Flagg Young, had such a contribution: so had Mrs. Victor Berger in Milwaukee. If Philadelphia holds a woman like them, it is the Board's business to find her.

Quien Sabe?

THINGS look brighter in Mexico. Both Villa and Carranza are so despondent that they indulge in sub rosa suggestions of conciliation.

England wants Tampico oil so badly that she may settle the submarine difficulty for us if we will settle Mexico. The State Department has grown so tired of waiting for word from the Brazilian Minister in Mexico City that it demands a free road to the capital within ten days.

The Newest German Bogy

EVERY spectacular move of the German Army calls up a still more spectacular possibility. As soon as the Warsaw offensive developed, a movement at the north of the line against Riga brought forth prophecies that Germany would leave the western front to its present deadlock and launch the drive of another Napoleon on the capital of Russia.

Now comes a rumor of a great thrust to the southward as soon as the issue in Poland is settled. It is to be a thrust from southernmost Hungary and Bosnia over the Serbian line, down that typhus-swept land and through into Turkey—to the relief of Constantinople.

There are a good many difficulties in the road besides the Balkan Mountains; there are a good many deterrent influences besides the pressure of Russia on the east and of the other Allies on the west. The Balkans began the war. The Balkans would be more than likely to end it if Germany tried such a move. Its success might mean the saving of Constantinople, but its mere inception would as surely mean the ranging of Rumania, Greece and not improbably Bulgaria against a force aiming to bind people and races that would be free and renaisance.

Gluts

THIS is a summer of glut in fruits, vegetables and meats. Everywhere goes up the plant of overproduction. The meat dealers can't sell to Europe as they used, while for some unknown reason nature over in Jersey, down in Delaware and way off in all the fruit States of the country has begun to double her peace-time capacity.

Bush League Work

ENGLAND says that out of 21,385 sailings and arrivals at British ports since the submarine war began, only 38 merchant vessels flying the Union Jack have been sunk. Germany furnished an unofficial figure of 23 for English vessels and 22 for those of all nations—including, apparently, the trawlers and fishing boats.

How to Be Healthy, Though on a Vacation

OSTENSIBLY you go on a vacation to find or to improve your health. But how many achieve it? To most of us a vacation is a respite from toil, with a license to overeat, oversleep and overdo nearly everything that we take in normal doses during the period of hard labor.

Private Charities to the Rescue

PHILADELPHIA can't be too thankful right now for its private charities. What would the poor of the city's overcrowded districts do without such benefactors as the late John F. Smith, who founded the pleasure park at Red Bank, to which the Sanitarium Association recently took 4000 blissfully happy children and their parents.

Literary Sowers of Discord

DEFENSE is one thing. Antagonism is another. When plea for preparedness degenerate into threats that a specific foreign Power is plotting to attack and subdue America; when they even present in story form the taking of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, the whole Eastern seaboard by that "enemy," then no amount of talk about "warnings" and "sacred duties to defenseless America" can cloud the fact that the authors of such stories are committing a public mischief.

FEW AMERICAN EXPATRIATES

Henry James Was Preceded in Forswearing His Allegiance to the United States by W. W. Astor, Baron Fairfax and Hudson Maxim.

By GEORGE W. DOUGLAS

THE stream of migration to these shores has so strong a current that there are few back eddies. Once a man becomes an American by birth or naturalization he holds fast to his country with a grip that nothing can unloose. There are few exceptions, but they prove the rule.

Henry James was once a real American, if a man brought up within the shadow of Harvard University can be so described. He has lived in England so many years, however, that his interest in America has long since faded away. When he forswore his allegiance the other day and became a British subject he merely made a formal recognition of a fact which he had long admitted in his own mind, namely, that he is an Englishman.

James Was Once Human The distinguished man of letters was once a very human sort of person, as the anecdotes of his youth indicate. When a small boy he had a bitter quarrel with his brother, William, later famous as a psychologist.

He is now among the few American expatriates, however. His transfer of allegiance is not likely to attract so much attention as that of William Waldorf Astor received when he finally decided to become an Englishman. Astor was the heir to one of the greatest American fortunes. He had married an American wife, the beautiful Mary Dahlgren Paul, daughter of the late James W. Paul, of this city, and he had been honored by his State and by the nation.

THE NATIONAL POINT OF VIEW The country is getting in the humor to accept the opinions of the Colonel and the Peerless One entertain of each other.—Florida Times-Union.

CONFERENCES BY THE SEA For weeks and weeks the Penrose men and those of Jim McNichol have met again and try again. Yet not a word may trickle of what these leaders talked about. No leader gives such tidings out.

FINAL PASSING OF THE FREAKS The Philistine Survived Longer Than Any Other of the Decadent Brood of the Last Century—Moods, a Product of Philadelphia Youth and Genius; the Chap Book, the Lark and Other Ephemeridae.

By ST. GEORGE BOLTON Zangwill, besides numerous others more or less well known. The name of Wells is attached to one of the best ghost stories in the language, a creepy, gruesome thing, done with the mastery of a literary artist.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE A Reader Thinks Uncle Sam Has "Specks" Made in Great Britain—Soldier Boys and Long-range Guns.

RANGE OF AMERICAN GUNS To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—Would you please publish in your EVENING LEDGER whether or not the United States has a gun that shoots 50 miles or more? Also how far they do shoot. IRVIN M. SNYDER, Pottsville, Pa., July 23.

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his German ancestry, he is now as English as those whose forebears came over with William the Conqueror. When young Albert Kirby Fairfax, hereditary 12th Baron Fairfax of Cameron, gave up his American citizenship a few years ago and claimed his Scotch title his action explained itself. The sixth baron came to America, and his grandsons from the ninth baron onward were American citizens.

The Case of Hiram Maxim No criticism of America is involved in the abandonment of America by these men. But as much cannot be said of Sir Hiram Maxim's settlement in England. This inventor of explosives and other war munitions received no encouragement at home, but he was welcomed in England, and the Government encouraged him and patronized him in a way so substantial that it was possible for him to carry out all the experiments in which he was interested.

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HAITI, THE LAND OF L'OUVRETURE A Country Where One Can See Things Grow, From Coffee Plants to Revolutions—Voodooism Flourishes With Politics and Neither is Much Better Than the Other.

By CHARLES F. KINGSLEY

ALL OF a sudden Haiti has lost another President. Quiet seems to have settled down on the capital, but you never can tell in Haiti. Haiti in some respects too closely resembles Mexico. Nobody knows when a revolution is going to begin or when it is really over. Like Mexico, Haiti is infected with generals. These generals are ambitious. To become a general is the first step toward becoming President. And no President can avoid being a dictator or, at least, trying to be.

According to the usual course when one President gets out or is put out, the new man makes a clean sweep of those who have been unwise enough to linger in loyalty around the steps of the deserted throne. A presidential throne? Oh, yes—Haiti. It is readily to be seen, however, that there is no continuity in Haitian politics, except a continuity of change. In this regard Mexico has perhaps a slight advantage over Haiti; but a more serious aspect of the comparison lies in the problem which confronts the United States.

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guous scenery and the agricultural potentialities." Another traveler's praise of the Haitian landscape goes further into detail: "In the first place, it is a never-ending surprise to find in tropic latitudes so many different kinds of country. Try to imagine a very mountainous region, so varying in altitude and rainfall and in the resulting climate and vegetation that as you ride across from Caribbean to Atlantic you pass through Bermuda, Arizona, the foothills of the Canadian Rockies and first-class conventional tropics resembling the most luxuriant parts of the neighboring Antilles, Cuba and Porto Rico. Haiti is as surprisingly varied as that."

Everything in the Earth The mineral wealth of the country is large, but exact scientific information is lodged in the hands of mining companies, who are awaiting stable political conditions. Haiti is principally an agricultural country. Stick anything into the ground and it will grow. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that one can actually see plants grow. At any rate, the plantations are looked at rather than cultivated by the shiftless laborers. The heavy rains knock off the coffee berries when they are ripe, seed them, and the result is the wonderful jungles of coffee bushes, whose fecundity is nowhere else equaled.

Coffee is the principal crop. Indeed, Haiti suffers from too much coffee. Haiti is economically dependent on the coffee crop. It supplies the bulk of the revenues of the Government and the meagre demands of the peasantry of the mountains and valleys, whose business it is—chiefly that of the women and children—to gather it and bring it to the seaport towns on their heads and on the backs of donkeys and horses. Virtually all the Haitian coffee has been shipped to Europe, principally to Germany and France. The German market has been lost and none gained to take its place. Efforts have been made in recent years to introduce Haitian coffee into the United States; but notwithstanding its excellent quality, the American importers will take little of it.

Toussaint L'Ouverture Forgotten Voodooism, with all its horrible, barbaric rites, still flourishes among the people, and its priests have always exerted considerable influence on the Government. But notwithstanding the general ignorance of the people, Haiti has developed a considerable literature, written in French, the official language of the country, and some of it is of a high order. Haiti has its national heroes, of course; but of these the murderous Desalines is held in highest esteem. The name of Toussaint L'Ouverture, a name familiar to every American schoolboy, and one which will live as long as history, is almost forgotten in Haiti.

A monument to Christophe, a mulatto, who became Haiti's first President in 1807 and later assumed the royal title of Henri I, "King of the North," is the great citadel of La Ferriere. He constructed it of solid masonry on the summit of a mountain 6000 feet high. Some of the walls are 80 feet high and 18 feet thick. The vast fortress has many subterranean passages and secret chambers, in which it is supposed that some of his hoarded wealth is still buried.

In 1842 an earthquake partially destroyed the structure; but the colossal ruins still attest the gigantic work of a hero, and the world wonders now how the work was done and how the material for the construction and the armament ever got to the top of the mountain. The whole enterprise is clouded in mystery and romance. The citadel covers the peak, dominates the surrounding country, can be plainly seen from the harbor of Cape Haitien, and is frequently visited by tourists.

A Fine Place to Live, If— Haiti would be, as an enthusiast describes it, "one of the most desirable places of abode in the world" if the elements of desirability consisted solely in "the wonderful fertility of the soil, the healthful climate, the equitable distribution of rainfall, the numerous rivers, the vast plains and valleys, the gor-

they should do so at their own peril and not expect this country to protect them. GEORGE WATSON, Ithaca, N. Y., July 28.

MOTHERS AND SOLDIER BOYS To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—Your article of a few days ago on "Preparedness and Militarism" reminded me of a little parody on "I Didn't Raise My Boy to Be a Soldier," which I heard from a New York friend. I am inclosing the parody and I hope it will interest both Bryan's "Jingolists" and Roosevelt's "sophocles." Here it is: I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier. But if his country calls him let him go; I'd rather see a musket on his shoulder. Than see this country beaten by some foe. I envy mothers of those brave old soldiers Who daily fight and boldly march away. There'd be no U. S. A. If you mothers all would say, "I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier." Philadelphia, July 27. F. A. S.

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